

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

A NEW WARBLER FROM THE BAHAMA ISLANDS.

BY W. E. CLYDE TODD.

From December, 1908, to May, 1909, Mr. Willis W. Worthington of Shelter Island Heights, New York, was engaged in collecting natural history specimens in the Bahama Islands, his material coming to me at the Carnegie Museum. He was especially successful in securing specimens of the rarer and more interesting Bahaman birds, among them a remarkable new species of warbler which, in advance of a formal report on the collection as a whole, I propose to call:

***Dendroica flavescens* sp. nov.**

YELLOW-BREASTED WARBLER.

Type, No. 19,887, Collection of W. W. Worthington, adult male; Spencer's Point, Abaco, Bahama Islands, May 7, 1909; W. W. Worthington.

Specific Characters.—Similar to *Dendroica dominica* Linnæus, but bill longer and slightly decurved, and entire lower parts (except under tail-coverts) yellow.

Description.—Adult male: above plain slate-gray (duller than in *D. dominica*); wings and tail dusky black with slate-gray edgings, the middle and greater coverts tipped with white, forming two conspicuous bands across wing; two outer rectrices with inner webs extensively white, and a more or less distinct white spot on third rectrix also; auricular and post-orbital regions, rictal streak, and lores black; forehead and sides of crown sometimes (always in full plumage?) black; suborbital spot and superciliary stripe white, the latter becoming pale yellow anteriorly; a small patch on sides of neck, behind the auriculars, white; below pale yellow, brightest on the throat and breast, fading to nearly white on the lower abdomen and under tail-coverts, the sides streaked broadly with black, confluent with the black auricular patch; under tail-coverts obscurely streaked with dusky; under wing-coverts white; bend of wing tinged with yellow; bill black; feet dusky (in skin). Adult female similar, a little duller, the back slightly washed with olivaceous. Immature female (first nuptial plumage) similar, but still duller in general coloration.

MEASUREMENTS (in millimeters).

No.	Sex.	Locality.	Date.	Wing.	Tail.	Exposed culmen.
19785*	♂ ad.	Sand Bank, Abaco . .	April 26, 1909	66	54	17
19887*	♂ ad.	Spencer's Point, Abaco	May 7, 1909	63	52	16
26047†	♂ ad.	"Abaco"	June 13, 1891	65	53	17
19672*	♀ im.	Sand Bank, Abaco . .	April 24, 1909	59	52	17
19825*	♀ ad.	Sand Bank, Abaco . .	April 29, 1909	63	53	16.5

* Collection W. W. Worthington.

† Collection Field Museum.

Remarks.—Four specimens of this fine new species were secured by Mr. Worthington, while I have recently discovered a fifth in the collection of the Field Museum of Natural History, whose series of *Dendroica dominica* has been placed at my disposal through the courtesy of Mr. Charles B. Cory. So far as known it is confined to the pine barrens of Abaco, but may be expected to occur on Great Bahama Island also. It is evidently most closely related to *Dendroica dominica*, from which it may readily be distinguished by the decidedly longer bill and the extension of the yellow over the entire under parts. This yellow color is much paler, less orange, than in adult specimens of *D. dominica*. The bill is an exaggeration of that of this latter species, being longer and appreciably more decurved, approaching in some degree that of *Cyanerpes* among the Cœrebidæ. The remarkable character of this member, so very different from that of the type of *Dendroica* (*D. coronata*), would indicate that the present bird is one of the most aberrant members of that genus, and would favor the recognition of *Neodendroica*, proposed by Mr. Charles J. Maynard (Warblers of New England, part 4, 1901, 69) for *D. dominica*.